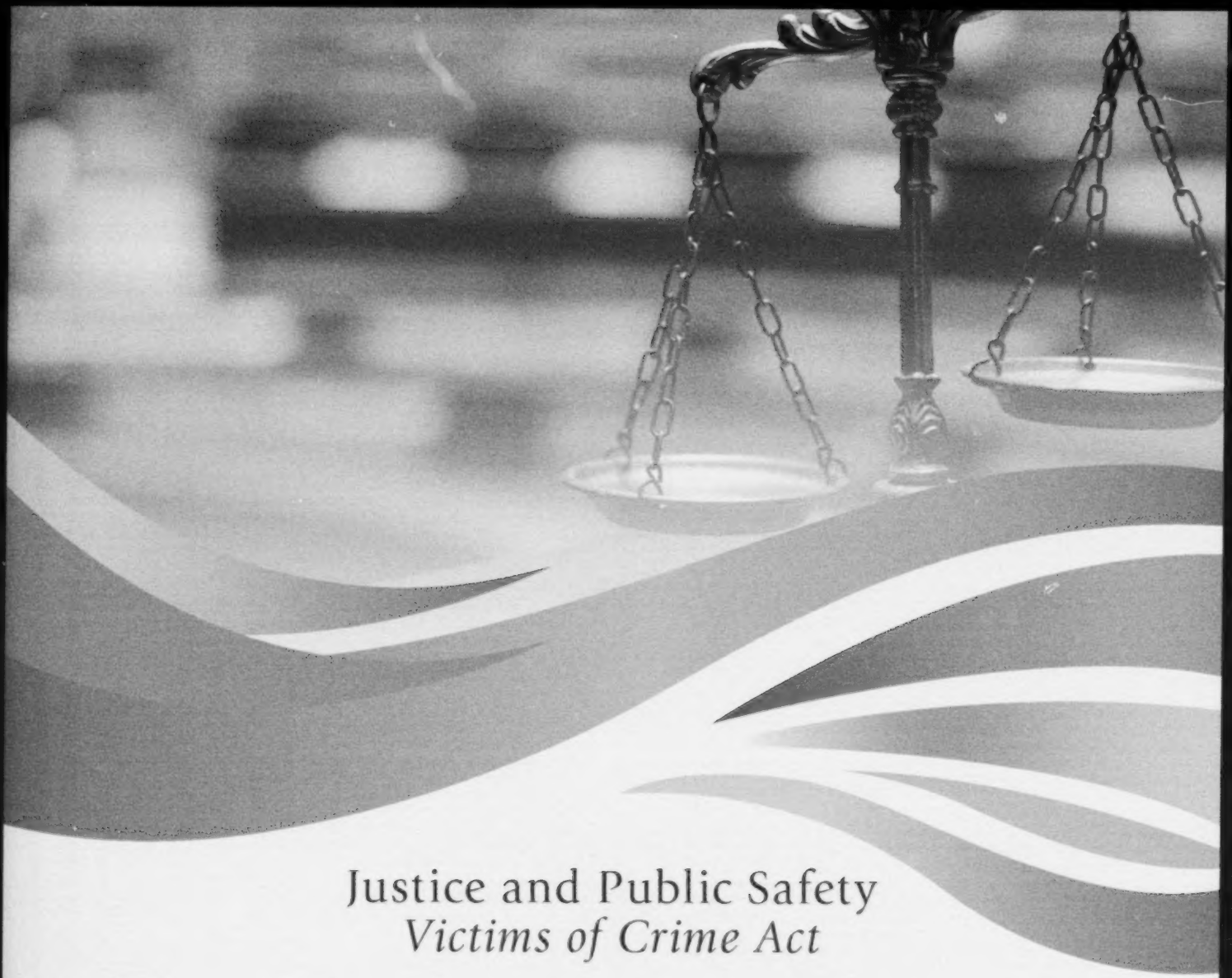

Justice and Public Safety

Victims of Crime Act

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

Prince Edward Island

CANADA

Twenty-seventh Annual Report

Victims of Crime Act
R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. V-3.1

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

Prince Edward Island Department of Justice and Public Safety
PO Box 2000, Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Justice and Public Safety

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November 2016

The Honourable H. Frank Lewis
Lieutenant Governor
Province of Prince Edward Island

May it Please Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit the Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the administration of the *Victims of Crime Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. V-3.1 pursuant to section 36 of the Act, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Wade MacLauchlan
Minister of Justice and Public Safety
and Attorney General

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Executive Summary

Trends in Client Demand

- There were 783 new cases referred to Victim Services in 2015-2016, in addition to approximately 506 cases carried forward from the previous year. As of March 31, 2016, there were 607 active cases across the province. The average monthly caseload in 2015-2016 was 547 cases.

- In 2015-2016, there were 135 victim impact statements prepared and filed with the court. Over the past five years, the number of victim impact statements filed has ranged from 131 to 262.

- During the fiscal year 2015-2016, 35 new applications for criminal injuries compensation were filed, and 68 applications were carried over from the previous year. Thirty two files were finalized and seven interim decisions were made in 2015-2016. A total of $124,232 was awarded in criminal injuries compensation.

- In 2015-2016, there were 63 applications for Emergency Protection Orders under the *Victims of Family Violence Act*, and seven applications for Victim Assistance Orders. Since the proclamation of the Act in December 1996, there have been a total of 829 Emergency Protection Orders granted.

Offence Type and Offender Information

- The most frequent types of crime for Victim Services cases in 2015-2016 were:
  - assault (36 percent)
  - sexual assault(12 per cent)
  - theft (11 per cent)
  - uttering threats (9 per cent)

- Of the total new referrals to Victim Services in 2015-2016, there was a family type relationship between the victim and the suspect or offender in 203 cases (27%). In 220 cases (29%), the suspect or offender was a male partner or ex-partner (either current or former husband, common-law husband, or boyfriend). In 18 cases (2%), the suspect or offender was a female partner or ex-partner (either current or former wife, common-law wife or girlfriend).

Highlights and Initiatives:

- The Canadian *Victims Bill of Rights Act* came into force on July 23, 2015. Implementation activities included development of policies, protocols and training in various sectors of the criminal justice system, including a new Victim Impact and Community Impact Statement Policy and Procedures, and a new Request for Restitution Form.

- With funding support from the federal Victims Fund, three projects were undertaken in 2015-2016 to improve collection and enforcement of restitution.

- Ongoing efforts to address the needs of victims of family violence and sexual abuse included:
  - assisting in the development of Enhanced Emergency Sexual Assault Services which includes enhanced training and protocols for health care providers in emergency room departments;
  - participating in an advisory capacity to the *RESPECT Project: Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in PEI;*
  - maintaining an inventory of provincial legislation, policies and protocols related to family violence prevention and intervention; and
  - assisting in the development of an updated framework: *"Strategies for Addressing Family Violence in Prince Edward Island"*, released by the Premiers Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention in 2016.

- Efforts continued to strengthen linkages with minority and multicultural groups, including awareness raising initiatives in partnership with newcomer, francophone and aboriginal communities

Sommaire

Tendances de la demande des clients

- En 2015-2016, 783 nouveaux cas ont été transmis au Service d'aide aux victimes, en plus d'environ 506 cas reportés de l'année précédente. En date du 31 mars 2016, il y avait 607 cas actifs dans la province. En moyenne, la charge de travail était de 547 cas par mois.

- En 2015-2016, le Service d'aide aux victimes a aidé à préparer et à déposer 135 déclarations de victime. Au cours des cinq dernières années, le nombre de déclarations de victime déposées a varié de 131 à 262.

- Durant l'exercice financier 2015-2016, 35 nouvelles demandes d'indemnisation des actes criminels ont été déposées, 68 ont été reportées de l'exercice précédent et 32 décisions sans appel ainsi que 7 décisions provisoires ont été rendues. Un montant total de 124 232 $ a été adjugé en indemnisation de victimes d'actes criminels.

- En 2015-2016, on a rendu 63 ordonnances de protection d'urgence dans le cadre de la *Victims of Family Violence Act* (loi sur les victimes de violence familiale) et 7 ordonnances d'aide aux victimes. Depuis la proclamation de la loi en décembre 1996, 829 ordonnances de protection d'urgence ont été rendues au total.

Types d'infractions et renseignements sur les contrevenants

- Les types de crime les plus fréquents dans les causes traitées par le Service d'aide aux victimes en 2015-2016 ont été les suivants :
  - voies de fait (36 pour cent)
  - agressions sexuelles (12 pour cent)
  - vols (11 pour cent)
  - profération de menaces (9 pour cent)

- Dans 203 cas (soit 27 pour cent des nouveaux cas transmis en 2015-2016), il y avait une relation familiale entre la victime et le suspect ou le contrevenant. Dans 220 cas (soit 29 pour cent des cas), le suspect ou le contrevenant était un partenaire ou un ex-partenaire mâle (soit le mari actuel ou l'ex-mari, le conjoint de fait ou le petit ami). Dans 18 cas (soit 2 pour cent des cas), la suspecte ou la contrevenante était une partenaire ou une ex-partenaire (soit la femme actuelle ou l'ex-femme, la conjointe de fait ou la petite amie).

Faits saillants et initiatives

- La Charte canadienne des droits des victimes est entrée en vigueur le 23 juillet 2015. Sa mise en œuvre a donné lieu à l'élaboration de politiques et de protocoles ainsi qu'à des activités de formation dans divers secteurs de l'appareil de justice pénale. Mentionnons entre autres l'application de nouvelles politiques et procédures liées aux déclarations des victimes et des répercussions sur la collectivité ainsi qu'un nouveau formulaire pour les demandes de dédommagement.

- En 2015-2016, trois projets ont vu le jour grâce à l'appui financier du Fonds d'aide aux victimes fédéral. Les initiatives visaient à améliorer la collecte et l'exécution des ordonnances de dédommagement.

- Dans le cadre des efforts soutenus visant à répondre aux besoins des victimes de violence familiale et sexuelle, le Service d'aide aux victimes a notamment.
  - Appuyé le développement d'un programme amélioré de services d'urgence aux victimes d'agression sexuelle visant à établir de meilleurs protocoles et à offrir de la formation aux fournisseurs de soins de santé qui travaillent dans les services d'urgence;
  - joué un rôle consultatif dans le projet RESPECT (mesures de lutte contre la violence sexuelle à l'Île);

- tenu un inventaire des lois, des politiques et des protocoles provinciaux liés à la prévention de la violence familiale et à l'intervention;
- appuyé la mise à jour du cadre de travail du Comité d'action du premier ministre pour la prévention de la violence familiale : *Stratégie de lutte contre la violence familiale à l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard* (2016).

- Les efforts visant à renforcer les liens avec les groupes minoritaires et multiculturels se sont poursuivis. Des initiatives de sensibilisation ont été mises sur pied en collaboration avec les communautés francophone et autochtone de l'Île ainsi qu'avec les nouveaux.

Part I

Introduction

The *Victims of Crime Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap.V-3.1 was proclaimed in force September 30, 1989. Regulations and orders under the act also came into force on that date. Extensive amendments to the act came into effect August 7, 1999.

The Statement of Principles contained in Part I of the *Victims of Crime Act* sets out the following principles for the guidance of persons in providing justice for victims of crime:

a) Victims should be treated with courtesy and compassion and with respect for their dignity, privacy, and convenience.

b) Victims should receive prompt and fair financial redress for the harm they have suffered.

c) Victims should be informed of and should have access to services including social, medical, legal, and mental health assistance.

d) Victims should be informed about the progress of the investigation and prosecution of the offence, court procedures, the role of the victim in court proceedings, and the ultimate disposition of the proceedings.

e) Victims are entitled, where their personal interests are affected, to have their views and concerns brought to the attention of the court where consistent with criminal law and procedure.

f) Victims and their families should be protected from intimidation, retaliation, and harassment.

g) Victims should have their stolen property returned to them as soon as possible after recovery by law enforcement authorities.

h) Victims are entitled to prepare a victim impact statement and have it considered by the court at sentencing.

i) Victims are entitled to be informed about the offender's status, including release dates, parole eligibility, and probation terms.

The *Victims of Crime Act* also establishes the Victim Services Advisory Committee, the Victim Services Program, the Victim Assistance Fund, and the Criminal Injuries Compensation Program.

Part II
Report of the Victim Services Advisory Committee

Committee Mandate

The Victim Services Advisory Committee is established under *Victims of Crime Act* with the mandate to:

a) review existing laws, policies and procedures and recommend changes to benefit victims;

b) assist law enforcement agencies, social agencies and other organizations with the development of guidelines that promote the principles set out in this *Act* relating to their role in respect of victims;

c) assist with establishing and updating procedures for the handling of complaints by victims;

d) assist with the research, development and distribution of information pertaining to the needs, rights and concerns of victims;

e) provide opportunities for research, discussion, and resolution of issues of concern to victims; and

f) advise on other matters that the Minister may refer to the Committee for consideration.

The Committee may make recommendations to the Minister relating to:

a) the development of policies and legislation respecting assistance to victims;

b) the provision of services, including criminal injuries compensation, to victims; and

c) any other matters that the Minister refers to the Committee for its recommendation.

Committee Membership and Meetings

Members of the Victim Services Advisory Committee as of March 31, 2016, and the organizations they represent are as follows:

Cathy Chaisson	Law Society of Prince Edward Island
David Daughton	Community Legal Information Association
Jeff MacDonald	Crown Attorneys
Eileen Conboy	P.E.I. Rape and Sexual Assault Centre
Gary Trainor	Probation Services
Deputy Chief Sinclair Walker	P.E.I. Association of Chiefs of Police
Sgt. Dwayne Loppie	R.C.M.P. "L" Division
Phil Matusiewicz	PEI Family Violence Prevention Inc.
Melissa Coffin	PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada
Judy Turpin	Court Services
Michelle Gill	Aboriginal Community
Melissa Arsenault	Francophone Community
Maureen MacEwen	Child and Family Services
Mari Basiletti	PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women

The Committee is assisted in its operations by the Victim Services Provincial Manager and Secretary. The Director of Justice Policy and Privacy Services Division, Department of Justice and Public Safety and the Adjudicator for Criminal Injury Compensation with Legal Services Division also provide assistance and information to the committee.

During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Victim Services Advisory Committee held meetings in April, 2015, September, 2015 and February, 2016. The Committee was chaired by Cathy Chaisson. The activities of the Committee during 2015-2016 included the following:

Canadian Victims Bill of Rights

On July 23, 2015 the *Victims Bill of Rights Act* came into force. This legislation establishes statutory rights at the federal level for victims of crime. These include rights to information, protection, participation and restitution. The law also provides for a complaints process. The Committee was provided information about the implications for the province, including implementation of new forms and policies for victim impact and community impact statements, and requests for restitution.

Job Protected Leave for Crime Related Disappearance or Death of a Child

The Committee received information about amendments to the PEI *Employee Standards Act* which came into effect December 2, 2015 to allow for job protected leave for care of a critically ill child and leave for crime related disappearance or death of a child.

Campbell-Hennessey Inquest

The Committee reviewed the recommendations of the Coroner's inquest into the deaths of four year old Nash Campbell and his mother Patricia Hennessey, as well as the November 2015 announcement in the Legislature regarding government's response to the inquest recommendations. The response includes a focus on greater information sharing and collaboration when working with high risk families. Information was received about immediate plans for:

- implementation of a Hub Model (a collaborative, risk driven approach to address situations of acutely elevated risk);
- development of a community based service to provide a safe and supervised access service for children moving between parents, as well as parenting coordination service for high-risk families in transition;
- interagency training on domestic violence and filicide risk;
- expansion of the Family Law program to provide legal and/or clinical intervention for children and families in high-risk litigation cases;
- work to be undertaken by the Office of the Chief Health Officer to develop a regular reporting system on the health and well being of PEI children.

Improved Collection and Enforcement of Restitution

With funding support from the federal Victims Fund, three projects were undertaken in 2015-2016 to improve collection and enforcement of restitution.

- A three month Restitution Coordinator project focussed on improving processes to assist victims to obtain restitution, including following up on restitution cheques returned to the court because of an incorrect address, and assisting with filing of civil judgements.
- A Probation Services Restitution File Review is being conducted to determine the amounts of restitution ordered and collected, and to identify strengths and gaps related to supervision and enforcement.
- A three month Deputy Sheriff position focussed on collection and enforcement of stand alone restitution orders that are filed as civil judgements.

Guest Speakers

The Committee invited guest speakers on a number of topics:

- Darrell Gallant, Mediator, Family Court Counsellor's Office, gave an informative presentation on the Mediation Services offered at the Family Law Centre, and his work in the area of peace plans.

- Karen MacDonald, Director, Community and Correctional Services, provided information on Departmental and Divisional initiatives related to community safety, offender rehabilitation, staff training and program evaluation.

Information Items

A number of information items were brought to the attention of the Victim Services Advisory Committee during the year. Some of these included:

- Legislative Updates:
  - amendments to federal and provincial legislation which have implications for victims and witnesses

- Research/Evaluation
  - Review of Policing Services in Prince Edward Island
  - Turning Point Program Evaluation
  - Review of Community Youth Worker and Outreach Worker Programs

- Program/Policy Development/Training
  - Men Matter Program - group programs for male survivors of sexual assault
  - PEI Court Order Registry launched in October 2014
  - Electronic Supervision Program
  - Integrated Correctional Program Model (ICPM) implementation in adult custody
  - Enhanced Emergency Sexual Assault Services update
  - Police Training on Family Violence Response - November 2015
  - Child Sexual Abuse - Police and Child Protection Joint Interview Training

- Conference Announcements:
  - Nobody's Victim: Language, Culture and Change - Clifton Spargo - April 2015
  - The Stories We Tell: Writing Workshop for Survivors of Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence and Trafficking - April 2015
  - Atlantic Community Safety Conference, Halifax - May 2015
  - Innovative Intervention with High Conflict Parents: Emerging Role for Parenting Coordination in PEI - June 2015
  - Aboriginal Justice Forum - October 2015
  - Impacts of Family Violence on the Workplace- February 2016
  - Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue - April 2015
  - Understanding the Effects of Pornography on Youth, and Responding to and Preventing Sexual Violence - May 2016
  - Domestic Violence Intervention Facilitator Training - May 2016

- Awareness Initiatives:
  - Family Violence Prevention Week - February 2015
  - Lived Through This - Stories of Sexual Violence Survivors- Public Presentation by Anne Ream April 2015
  - National Victims of Crime Awareness Week activities - April 2015
  - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day - June 2015
  - Sisters in Spirit Vigil - October 2015
  - Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence - December 2015
  - Study Group on Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action Report
  - International Women's Day event - March 2016

- Federal/provincial initiatives
  - reports from meetings of the F/P/T Ministers of Justice; and the F/P/T Working Group on Victims of Crime
  - federal funding sources and criteria for victims of crime initiatives

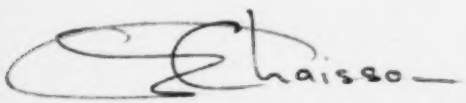
- Statistics Canada Reports
  - Family Violence in Canada - A Statistical Profile, 2014
  - Homicide in Canada, 2014
  - Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014

- New Publications:
  - Alternative Measures: Information for Victims of Adult and Youth Crime
  - Information for Victims of Youth Crime
  - Inventory of Counselling Resources for Survivors of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assault - 2015
  - Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention - Strategic Plan 2015
  - Brochure: How to Support Someone who is Sexually Assaulted

- Information for UPEI students: What to do if you've been sexually assaulted
- Do It Yourself Power of Attorney Kit

- Other Information Items:
  - Public Health Agency of Canada - call for proposals to address domestic violence and child abuse
  - PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Equality Report Card - 2015
  - *Child Protection Act* Review
  - Victim Services and Probation Services Statistical Trends

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Chaisson, Chair

Part III
Report of the Victim Services Program

Victim Services has provided a criminal justice system-based service to victims of crime province-wide since April, 1989. The system-based approach has the following key attributes:

- operates within the criminal justice system, but independently from the police, Crown attorneys, or the courts;
- is client-centred;
- maintains close working relationships with criminal justice personnel and community agencies;
- assists victims of crime at all stages of the criminal justice process;
- uses an outreach approach.

Mandate

Section 7 of the *Victims of Crime Act* states that the purpose of Victim Services is:

a) to assist victims as needed throughout their contacts with the criminal justice system;
b) to help victims to access other needed services;
c) to receive applications for criminal injuries compensation and investigate claims on behalf of the Minister;
d) to assist with the preparation and filing of victim impact statements;
e) to assist justice personnel and community agencies in providing services to victims;
f) to promote the Statement of Principles set out in section 2 of the *Act*.

Mission Statement

Victim Services provides a client-centred service for victims of crime, ensuring respect for their dignity and privacy. Victim Services assists clients throughout their involvement with the criminal justice process.

Vision Statement

Victims Services' vision is that:

- all victims of crime on Prince Edward Island who require assistance through the criminal justice process will be referred at the earliest opportunity to Victim Services; and
- the response of all criminal justice personnel will be guided by the Statement of Principles in the *Victims of Crime Act*.

Goals

Victim Services goals are:

- to provide prompt, effective assistance to victims of crime, especially victims of crimes against the person, but not excluding any victim who needs assistance through the criminal justice process;
- to tailor the assistance provided to meet the needs of the particular client;
- to provide services to any victim of crime requiring assistance, regardless of their geographic location on Prince Edward Island;
- to investigate criminal injuries compensation claims and complete the case analysis for each claim as quickly as possible;
- by working collaboratively with the police and Crown attorneys, to ensure that all victims of crimes in which charges are laid are informed of their right to prepare and file a victim impact statement;
- to ensure that victims understand the implications of preparing and filing a victim impact statement and do so voluntarily;
- to promote the use of the *Victims of Family Violence Act* in appropriate cases.

Statistical Overview

Assistance provided to victims of crime includes:

- information about case status, the criminal justice system, and court procedures;
- emotional support and short term counselling;
- referrals for legal, financial and long term counselling services;
- assistance through the court process and with preparation of victim impact statements;
- investigation of applications for criminal injuries compensation; and
- assistance under the *Victims of Family Violence Act*.

Victim Services cases are categorized in the following classifications: general, sexual abuse, female partner abuse, other family abuse, and commercial/business. The percentage breakdown of new cases by case classification in 2015-2016, and a comparison with previous years, are noted as follows:

Victim Services New Cases

Type of Client	Per Cent Breakdown		
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
General*	49	46	41
Female Partner Abuse	25	28	30
Other Family Abuse	11	10	9
Sexual Abuse	8	7	12
Commercial/Business	7	9	8

** General includes break and enter, damage to property, theft, general assaults, impaired driving causing injury or death, etc.*

The following table illustrates the total and percentage of each type of case opened in 2015-2016. The table also indicates the police agency involved with each case.

Table I

Victim Case Classification: New Cases
2015-2016

Police Jurisdiction	General	Sexual Abuse	Female Partner Abuse	Other Family Abuse	Commercial/ Business	TOTAL
West Prince RCMP	6	9	10	8	4	37
East Prince RCMP	13	14	22	11	0	60
Summerside PD	39	13	41	14	17	124
Kensington PD	5	5	4	0	0	14
Charlottetown PD	137	23	70	18	36	284
Queens District RCMP	45	17	37	10	1	110
Montague RCMP	56	3	32	4	0	95
Souris RCMP	16	0	8	5	0	29
Out of Province/ or Not Specified	8	7	8	3	4	30
Totals	**325**	**91**	**232**	**73**	**62**	**783**
Percentile	**41**	**12**	**30**	**9**	**8**	**100**

Caseload Trends

There were 783 new cases referred to Victim Services in 2015-2016, in addition to approximately 506 cases carried forward from the previous year. As of March 31, 2016, there were 607 active cases across the province. The average monthly caseload in 2015-2016 was 547 cases.

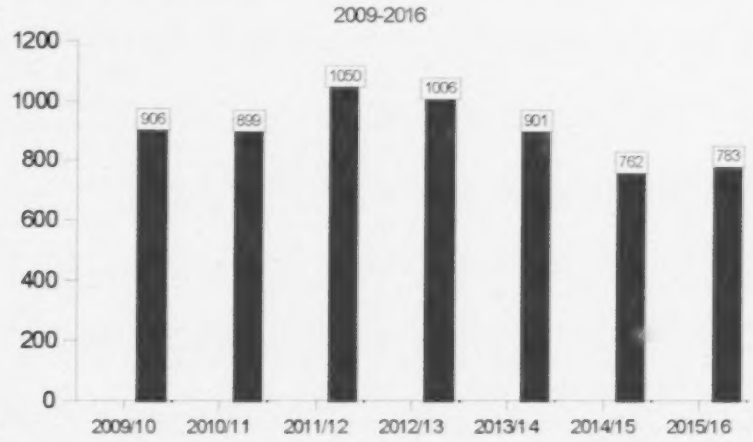


Figure 1

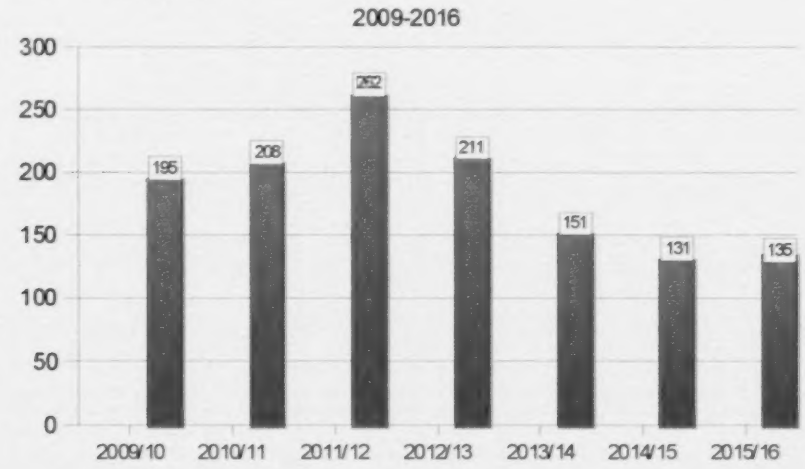
Rate of Reported Crime

Prince Edward Island's crime rate dropped 36% from 2012 to 2015. In 2015, declines were recorded in the Crime Severity Index (-10%), the Violent Crime Severity Index (-14%), the Youth Crime Severity Index (-38%), and Youth Violent Crime Severity Index (-58%). The Crime Severity Index (CSI) measures the volume and severity of police reported crime. The drop in crime rates was driven primarily by a reduction in the number of thefts of $5,000 and under, robbery and homicides.

Victim Impact Statements

Victim Services is designated by Lieutenant Governor in Council as the program responsible for preparing and filing victim impact statements. Victim impact statements outline the physical, emotional, and financial effects of the crime on the victim. After determination of guilt, the judge considers the victim impact statement as one of the factors in determining the sentence.

In 2015-2016, there were 135 victim impact statements prepared and filed with the court. The trends since 2009 are illustrated in the graph:



Offence Type and Offender Information

The most frequent types of crime for Victim Services cases in 2015-2016 were:

- assault (36 percent)
- sexual assault (12 per cent)
- theft (11 per cent)
- uttering threats (9 per cent)

Of the total new referrals to Victim Services in 2015-2016, there was a family type relationship between the victim and the suspect or offender in 203 cases (27 %). In 220 cases (29%), the suspect or offender was a male partner or ex-partner (either current or former husband, common-law husband, or boyfriend). In 18 cases (2%), the suspect or offender was a female partner or ex-partner (either current or former wife, common-law wife or girlfriend).

The proportion of Victim Services clients victimized by adult offenders compared with young offenders has been consistent over the years. In the new cases where an offender was identified, 94% percent of the offenders were adults, and 6% were youth.

Age Range and Gender of Victims

Age ranges of Victim Services' new clients were as follows:

under 12 years	3%
12 - 17 years	8%
18 - 40 years	44%
41 - 60 years	17%
61 years and over	6%
unknown/not recorded	22%

Seventy three percent of Victim Services' new clients were female, and 27 per cent were male.

Criminal Injuries Compensation

Under the *Victims of Crime Act*, Victim Services is responsible for investigating claims for criminal injuries compensation. Victim Services staff also assist victims with preparing their applications and gathering information to support their claims. Victim Services staff prepare a case analysis regarding each claim.

Designated persons within the Legal Services Section of the Department of Justice and Public Safety are responsible for adjudicating claims and writing a report, including recommendations, to the Minister who makes decisions regarding claims.

During the fiscal year 2015-2016, 35 new applications for criminal injuries compensation were filed, and 68 applications were carried over from the previous year. Thirty two files were finalized and seven interim decisions were made in 2015-2016. A total of $124,232 was awarded in criminal injuries compensation.

Further information and statistics regarding criminal injuries compensation are contained in Part IV of the Annual Report.

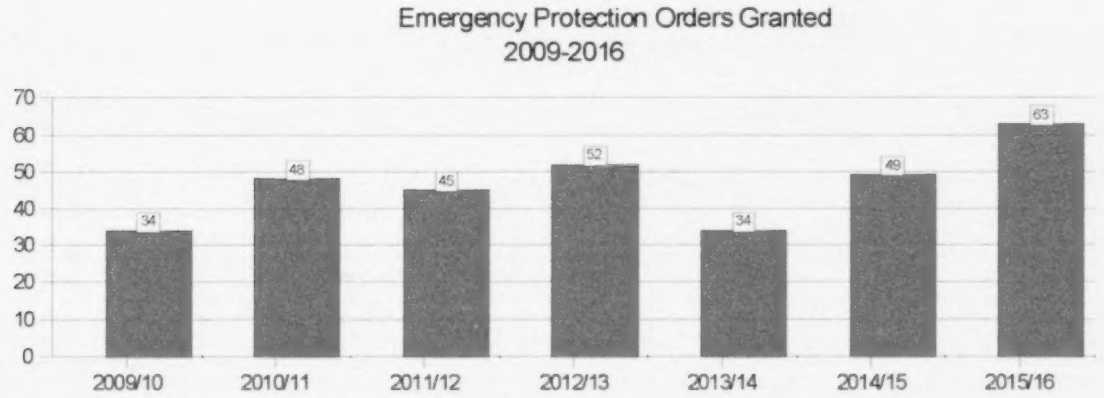
Victims of Family Violence Act

The *Victims of Family Violence Act* came into effect in December 1996. This provincial law addresses the need for victims to stay in their own homes, provides an additional remedy to supplement the Criminal Code, and enables the justice system to provide a more effective and timely response. Under this act, Emergency Protection Orders are available 24 hours/day from designated justices of the peace. In non-emergency situations, longer-term Victim Assistance Orders are available by application to the Supreme Court.

Victim Services staff assist with training and ongoing monitoring and promotion of the use of the *Victims of Family Violence Act*. Police officers and victim services workers are designated under the Act to make application for emergency protection orders.

In 2015-2016, there were 63 applications for Emergency Protection Orders under the Victims of Family Violence Act. Orders ranged from 14 days to 89 days in duration, with an average length of 57 days. There were 7 applications for Victim Assistance Orders.

Since the proclamation of the Act in December 1996, there have been a total of 829 Emergency *Protection Orders granted. The trends since 2007 are illustrated in the graph below:*



A Steering Committee continues to meet on an regular basis to assist in monitoring and training related to the Act. In partnership with the PEI Association of Chiefs of Police, the Steering Committee has continued to offer annual police training to implement a standardized response to reported incidents of domestic violence, and to enhance knowledge about risk factors and available options to protect victims.

Victim Services Program Highlights

- The Canadian *Victims Bill of Rights Act* came into force on July 23, 2015. Implementation activities included development of policies, protocols and training in various sectors of the criminal justice system, including a new Victim Impact and Community Impact Statement Policy and Procedures, and a new Request for Restitution Form.

- With funding support from the federal Victims Fund, three projects were undertaken in 2015-2016 to improve collection and enforcement of restitution.

- Ongoing efforts to address the needs of victims of sexual abuse included:
  - assisting in the development of Enhanced Emergency Sexual Assault Services which includes enhanced training and protocols for health care providers in emergency room departments;
  - participating in an advisory capacity to the *RESPECT Project: Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in PEI;*
  - maintaining an inventory of provincial legislation, policies and protocols related to family violence prevention and intervention; and
  - assisting in the development of an updated framework: *"Strategies for Addressing Family Violence in Prince Edward Island"*, released by the Premiers Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention in 2016.

- Efforts continued to strengthen linkages with minority and multicultural groups, including awareness raising initiatives in partnership with newcomer, francophone and aboriginal communities.

Committee Participation

An important aspect of the work of Victim Services involves maintaining cooperative working relationships with other criminal justice and community agencies to coordinate case management and to effect positive long term change for victims of crime. Staff participated in committees at various levels involving national, provincial, regional, divisional and community initiatives.

At the Federal/Provincial/Territorial level, the Provincial Manager participated on:

- FPT Victims of Crime Working Group
- FPT Ad Hoc Working Group on Family Violence
- FPT Working Group on Underage and Forced Marriage, "Honour" Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting

Victim Services is represented on community and criminal justice based committees involving work in the area of family violence, sexual abuse, cultural and societal issues. These committees include:

- Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention
- Steering Committee - Victims of Family Violence Act
- Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee
- High Risk Offender Committee
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Committee
- Planning Committee for Aboriginal Justice Forum
- Justice Options for Women
- RESPECT Project: Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in PEI - Advisory Committee

As part of the Community and Correctional Services Division, Victim Services staff were involved in a number of Departmental and Divisional initiatives including:

- Divisional Wellness Committee
- Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- Court Complex Security Committee Committee

Education and Training

Victim Services staff participated in various education and training initiatives including:

- Understanding the Effects of Pornography on Youth, and Responding to and Preventing Sexual Violence
- Sexual Violence Knowledge Exchange
- Nobody's Victim: Language, Culture and Change
- "Lived Through This" - Book Launch and Public Presentation
- Preventing Homicides: Lessons Learned from Tragedies
- Innovative Intervention with High Conflict Parents: Emerging Role for Parenting Coordination in PEI
- Pathways to Resilience: Beyond Nature vs Nurture
- Supporting Mental Wellness of Vulnerable Children and Families Across Systems
- Youth Justice Services Conference
- Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue
- Trauma Informed Care, Secondary Trauma and Resiliency
- Every Little Bit: Working Together in Creating a Culture of Wellness
- Addictions and Mental Illness - Working with Co-occurring Disorders
- Suicide Prevention Training
- Addictions Awareness
- Mental Health First Aid
- Creating a Safe Environment Deliberately

- "It's Not Right! Changing Social Norms Regarding Abuse of Older Adults
- Canadian *Victims Bill of Rights*
- Joint Training with Nova Scotia Victim Services
- Aboriginal Justice Forum: Hearing our Stories, Healing our People
- Learning from the Knowledge Keepers of Mi'kma'ki
- Justice Practitioners Summit on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- *Taking Stock of Cyberbullying: A Scan of the PEI Context*

Public Education

Victim Services staff participate in opportunities to promote awareness and understanding of issues related to crime, victimization, victims' rights and available services. Presentations during the fiscal year 2015-2016 included:

- Police Response to Family Violence Training
- Public Services Commission Training Sessions on Family Violence Education
- Impacts of Family Violence on the Workplace
- Child Sexual Abuse - Police and Child Protection Joint Interview Training
- *Child Protection Act* Review
- Community Engagement Activities: Native Council of PEI, Lennox Island First Nations, Abegweit First Nations
- Native Council of PEI - Family Violence Presentations
- Aboriginal Front Line Worker Training
- Divisional Victim Awareness Training
- Health and Forensics Workshop: Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- UPEI/Holland College Resident Life Advisors
- Womens Network Trade HERizons Program
- Probation Services re Canadian Victims Bill of Rights
- RCMP "L" Division POWPM (Program Oriented Work Planning Meeting)
- Queens District RCMP Annual Meeting
- UPEI Sociology Class - Women in the Criminal Justice System
- Holland College: Protecting Yourself from Sexual Assault

Staffing

Victim Services Offices are located in Charlottetown and Summerside.

Personnel as of March 31, 2016 include:

Provincial Manager	Susan Maynard
Victim Services Workers	Darlene Oatway Paula Finkle Joy Coffin Ev Marshall Linda MacAulay Kellie MacQueen Carolyn Peters Georgina Bowness
Admin Support	Tabatha Milligan Pam Sellick

Part IV
Criminal Injuries Compensation Program

Criminal injuries compensation is a fund of last resort, such that other means of compensation or reimbursement are to be sought first.

Authority for Prince Edward Island's Criminal Injuries Compensation Program is contained in Part IV of the *Victims of Crime Act*, which was proclaimed in force September 30, 1989. Amendments to Part IV which came into effect August 7, 1999 were designed to further simplify and speed up the process for assessing compensation claims.

The *Victims of Crime Act* is not retroactive; criminal injuries compensation can only be awarded in respect of an injury or death resulting from a crime that occurred after September 30, 1989.

Values

Criminal injuries compensation is one means to take action on principle (b) from the Statement of Principles in the *Victims of Crime Act*, which states "victims should receive prompt and fair financial redress for the harm they have suffered."

Summary of the Legislation

In general, a claim for criminal injuries compensation may arise in the event of injury or death by an act that occurred in Prince Edward Island, and that injury or death must have directly resulted from the commission of a criminal offence prescribed in the regulations under the *Victims of Crime Act*. The applicant need not be a resident of Prince Edward Island.

The term "injury" is specifically defined in the *Victims of Crime Act* to mean actual bodily harm, including emotional trauma or pregnancy resulting from sexual assault, and mental or nervous shock. If a person suffers only property damage or loss as a result of a prescribed crime, he or she is not eligible for criminal injuries compensation. It is not necessary that anyone be prosecuted or convicted for the crime, but an award may be delayed pending the outcome of the criminal process. A determination of guilt is conclusive evidence that an offence has been committed.

Eligible Applicants

The Minister may order criminal injuries compensation

1. to or for the benefit of the victim;
2. to any person, in respect of financial loss suffered by or expenses incurred by that person as the result of the death or injury of the victim;
3. to any one or more of the dependants of the victim.

Compensable Losses

Compensable losses include:

1. reasonable expenses incurred or likely to be incurred as a result of the victim's injury or death;
2. financial losses resulting from total, partial or temporary disability affecting the victim's capacity for work;
3. financial loss to dependents resulting from the victim's death;
4. pain and suffering;
5. maintenance of a child born as a result of sexual assault;
6. financial loss incurred in respect of grief or sorrow as a result of the victim's death; and
7. other financial loss resulting from the victim's injury, and any other expense that, in the opinion of the minister or, in the case of a small claim, in the opinion of a designated person, it was reasonable to incur.

Maximum Award

The maximum amount payable to **all applicants** in respect of the injury or death of **one victim** is $15,000. The maximum amount payable to **all applicants** in respect of **one occurrence** (that is, one incident resulting in injury or death to more than one victim) is $30,000. The award cannot exceed these limits.

Volume of Applications

During the fiscal year 2015-2016, 35 new applications for criminal injuries compensation were filed, and 68 applications were carried over from the previous year. Thirty two files were finalized and seven interim decisions were made in 2015-2016. A total of $124,232 was awarded in criminal injuries compensation.

The following statistical tables summarize the criminal injuries compensation program during 2015-2016:

Table II
Applications – Statistical Summary
April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

New applications filed	35
Applications carried over from last year	68
Variation applications	0
Appeals	0
Total	**103**
Decisions made:	
award denied	0
full award granted	27
interim award	7
reduced award	2
variation	0
Total	**36**
Withdrawn applications	3
Files closed (final awards)	32
Files carried forward to next fiscal year	71

Table III
Categories of Victims
(Based on Final and Interim Awards)
April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

Types of Victims	Number
General	24
Other family abuse	0
Sexual abuse	8
Female partner abuse	4
Total	**36**

Table IV
Crimes Involved in Final Awards Granted
April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

Criminal Code Section	Number of Awards
151 (sexual interference)	3
235 (murder)	2
255 (impaired driving causing bodily harm/death	2
266 (assault)	4
267 (assault with weapon/causing bodily harm)	10
268 (aggravated assault)	1
269 (unlawfully causing bodily harm)	1
271 (sexual assault)	5
279 (forcible confinement)	1
Total	**29**

Table V
Reasons for Reduced and/or Denied Awards
April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016

Reason	Reduced	Denied
Crime not covered by regulations	0	0
Criminal offence not proven	0	0
Victim culpability/ contributory behaviour	2	0
Victim engaged in unlawful activity	0	0
Loss recovered from other sources	0	0
Total	**2**	**0**

Table VI Compensation Ordered* April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016	
Pain and suffering	$ 74,643
Expenses	$ 49,589
Total Awarded	$124,232

*Note: Compensation ordered in one fiscal year may be paid out in a different fiscal year (e.g., for dental expenses).

Table VII Age and Gender of Victims (Based on Final and Interim Awards) April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016	
Age	No. of Victims
under 10	3
11-20	12
21-30	8
31-40	7
41-50	2
51-60	2
61-70	2
71 +	0
Total	**36**
Gender	
Female	19
Male	17
Total	36

Part V

Victim Assistance Fund

Victim Services Summary of Revenue and Expenditures

	Budget Amount	Actual Year Ended March 31, 2016	Projects
Revenue			
Victim Surcharge			
- federal offences	55,000	94,371	
- provincial offences	175,000	187,462	
Donations/honorarium	0	0	
Restitution/civil suit reimbursement	0	12,425	
Victims of Crime Fund (Justice Canada)	263,400	215,294	215,294*
Total Revenue	**493,400**	**509,552**	**215,294**
Minus Project Revenue		215,294	
		294,258	

Note:

* Revenue was received from the Victims of Crime Fund, Justice Canada, in the amount of $215,294 for training initiatives and four projects:
Victim Services Worker - Queens County
Victim Services Worker - Western Region
Probation Services Restitution File Review Project
Deputy Sheriff Restitution Enforcement Project

Victim Services Summary of Revenue and Expenditures

	Budget Amount	Actual Year Ended March 31, 2016	Projects
Expenditures			
Administration	12,400	10,266	1,778
Equipment	2,500	3,369	2,827
Materials/supplies	4,500	7,518	0
Professional/Contract Services	20,000	1,790	0
Salaries/benefits	753,700	724,948	198,709
Travel and training	18,000	18,957	11,980
Criminal Injuries Compensation	100,000	107,475	0
Victim Assistants Fees	0	60	0
Total Expenditures	**911,100**	**874,419**	**215,294**
Minus Project Expenditures		215,294	
		659,125	

Note:
Project expenditures were for Victim Services projects listed above.

Accounting Procedures:
All revenues and expenditures related to Victim Services are recorded in the accounts of the Province and included in the Public Accounts.

CANADA

2016

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